

The Morning Astorian.

LARGEST CIRCULATION IN CLATSOP AND THE ADJOINING COUNTIES

Smoking Jackets

ONE DOES NOT HAVE TO smoke to feel comfortable in a Smoking Jacket. When you are invited out to dine a Tuxedo Coat and Vest is the proper caper.

But when you have supper at home, put on a Smoking Jacket and your Slippers; chances are that you'll feel so comfortable you won't go out.

WE HAVE THEM AT \$5 to \$10

Of course, there are lots of cheap ones made, but we sell only "good ones." They are the cheapest in the end.



OUR CHRISTMAS GOODS

Are arriving and will be ready for inspection in a few days. We will, as usual, have the largest and newest stock of Holiday goods in the city.

Musical Instruments and Pictures BOOKS AND STATIONERY

Our Prices Cannot Be Beaten, Quality Considered

J. N. GRIFFIN SUCCESSOR TO GRIFFIN & REED

BEE HIVE STORE NEWS

Special Prices This Week on Ladies' and Children's Furs

Girls' White Aprons In Eight Different Dainty Styles 25c to \$1.40 They are the Prettiest Aprons We Have Seen Ladies' White Muslin Underwear. Lace Corset Covers 50c to \$1.50

FIRE CONSUMES CROWDED HOTEL

Fourteen People Burned and Suffocated or Crushed to Death by Awful Leaps.

HOUSE VERITABLE FIRE TRAP

Probably the Most Appalling Fire Ever in Chicago—Guests in City to Attend Live Stock Exhibit.

CHICAGO, Dec. 4.—Fourteen persons among the scores crowded into the Lincoln Hotel, at 176 Madison street, met death shortly before 6 o'clock this morning in a fire which will pass into local history as one of the most horrible Chicago ever had. Death came suddenly to a few, but with an awful slowness to others, who were penned in the death trap and suffocated or burned to death. Some died in their rooms some chanced all in jumping and lost, while others were found in the hallways where they had expired with their fingers dug into the cracks of the floor. All of the bodies were recovered, as the hotel was not destroyed.

THE DEAD: H. M. HANDY, of Janesville, Wis. H. M. WOOD, Lebanon, Ind. SAMUEL L. YOCUM, Davenport, Ia. J. C. YOCUM, Davenport, Ia. F. L. EWING, Marietta, O. A. B. COON, Maringo, Ill. T. V. SLOCUM, Waco, Ill. WARD LOWE, Sechlersville, Wis. E. W. CARY, Bucyrus, O. ED TONER, Milwaukee. B. F. BOSWELL, lived at hotel. Three of the victims still remain unidentified.

The victims were taken to Ralston's morgue and all day the place was filled with anxious people interested in the dead or seeking to assure themselves of the safety of friends or relatives.

The building was a fire trap of the worst kind according to experts. There were but two exits, a narrow stairway, leading down the four floors of the building and an incomplete fire escape in the rear.

The fire started on the second floor, presumably from a lighted cigar dropped on the carpet. Guests occupying upper rooms in the front part of the house, aroused by the screams of a woman, were able to escape down the stairway, and about 30 people reached safety by means of the fire escape. To add to the horror, however, this gave way while others were attempting to escape and three men were dashed to death on the pavement of the alley below.

Shortly after the fire broke out the firemen rushed up the stairway into the place and began the work of rescue. Men, women and children were carried down ladders.

E. C. Weber, the night clerk, was one of the first persons to discover smoke on the second floor. It is believed that the fire began in this section of the building. Weber refused to make any statement, and after he had secured possession of the hotel register, he was taken to the central station, where he is detained.

All but 14 of the guests at the hotel were out-of-town persons. Most of them came to Chicago to attend the International Livestock show. In every room or place in which a cot could be erected, it is said guests were accommodated.

THREE ROBBERERS HOLD UP THIRTY-FIVE CLURMEN

Boldly Enter Room and Two Cover Inmates While the Third Takes Cash.

BUTTE, Dec. 4.—A special to the Miner from Pocatello, Idaho, says about the boldest and most daring hold-up in the history of Idaho was committed tonight when three men entered the Eagle club rooms and robbed the house of about \$1000.

Two of the men advanced into the room in which there were not less than 35 men and covered them, each man holding two guns. The third man then marched around to the games and gathered up the money. It is believed the robbers will soon be captured.

MRS. TINGLEY WINS OUT

Her School Is O. K. and the Children Will Be Released.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—Commissioner General Sargent of the immigration bureau has filed with Secretary Shaw his report on the question of admitting to the United States the 11 Cuban children being detained at

New York, pending a settlement of the question of the financial responsibility and general character of the theosophical institution known as the "Universal Brotherhood school," at Point Loma, Calif.

The report is an unqualified endorsement of the school, both as to its financial standing and general character.

BANK ROBBERS CAPTURED

Sheriff Has Succeeded in Landing the Bold Bad Men.

BUTTE, Dec. 4.—A dispatch from Big Timber, Mont., says: Today's chase after the Bridger bank robbers has shifted to the north, with the valley of the Yellowstone river as a center. Developments show that the robbers were heading south to get east of the National park. They afterwards turned back somewhere south of Absarokee and headed to the north and west. This brought them to Butcher Creek, where they were reported yesterday.

LATER—A special to the Miner from Billings says the news was received this evening that Sheriff Potter of Carbon county captured the men today.

The report says the robbers were overtaken at Fishtail creek, a tributary of Rosebud river, near the Wyoming line. They were with a rancher, Pat Murphy, and Murphy was arrested also. The men were brought to Red Lodge this evening and lodged in jail.

PROPOSED POSTAL REFORMS

Considerable Difficulty Will Be Met in Establishing System.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—A decision of the district court of appeals yesterday in the second class mail reform cases will be studied carefully by the postoffice department officials, before definite conclusion is reached as to the future policy in reference to the reclassification reforms.

Postmaster General Payne today expressed the opinion that each case of exclusion or proposed exclusion of a publication from second class provisions would have to be determined by itself.

NEGOTIATIONS AT STANDSTILL

Will Wait Outcome of Bill Now Before Lower House.

HAVANA, Dec. 4.—Reciprocity negotiations between General Bliss and the Cuban secretaries, Zaldu and Montes, are practically at a standstill owing to the latter desiring to await the outcome of the bill introduced in the house of representatives providing for the appointment of a committee to draw up a bill defining the limits of concessions which the Cuban government can offer foreign countries in negotiating reciprocity treaties.

AMERICAN MINISTER DIES

Representative at the Court of the Mikado Is Reported Dead.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—A cablegram received at the state department from Ferguson, second secretary of the legation at Tokio, says that Minister Luck died today, but makes no explanation of the conditions.

It is expected that the remains of the dead minister, who was a veteran of the Civil war, will be brought to Washington for interment at Arlington.

GOVERNMENT LAND SOLD

Report From Land Office Shows Gratifying Results.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—A statement prepared by Assistant Commissioner Richards of the general land office shows that 6,109,039 acres of land were disposed of during the first quarter of the current fiscal year, receipts therefrom aggregating \$2,615,089.

REED'S CONDITION IS WORSE

Doctors Hold Consultation Over Case of Ex-Speaker.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—The condition of ex-Speaker Reed is worse tonight. Uræmia has developed and a specialist from Philadelphia has been sent for. The doctors have had several consultations during the evening.

At 2 o'clock it was stated that Mr. Reed was resting easier but the change in his condition was slight.

WINTER DOWN SOUTH

JACKSON, Miss., Dec. 4.—General rain, sleet and snow prevailed throughout the state today. This is the earliest snow known here in years. Business is practically at a standstill.

BIG SNOWSLIDE

BAKER CITY, Dec. 4.—A messenger report has just reached this city of an immense snow slide at Cornucopia last night. No details are obtainable, save that two miners were killed and other damage was done.

COMMISSION MUST SETTLE TROUBLES

Little Hope Expressed for an Outside Settlement Though It Is Possible.

WITNESSES ARE QUESTIONED

Important Point Brought Up by Miners' Attorney—Testimony of Mine Inspectors Invited.

SCRANTON, Pa., Dec. 4.—There were no developments this morning looking to a settlement outside the commission of the existing differences between the miners and their employers.

Andrew Matney, a Slavonian, who was employed by Coxie Brothers & Company, was the first witness called. He was the president of his local union and was told by the company, he said, that if he quit the union he would be given a boss job. He refused, and later was given such bad work that he gave up his job. He said he was the means of bringing 14 Slavonians to this country at the instance of a breaker boss at the Coxie mines. They were promised \$1.10 a day, but received only 65 cents a day.

When the witness was asked how many times he had seen the mine inspector in the mines, Commissioner Watkins asked the purpose of the question. Mr. Darrow said that, as a rule, the mine inspector is accompanied by a company official, and therefore a miner is afraid to make a complaint in the presence of his boss. Mr. Mitchell maintained inspectors should be unaccompanied, and their attention not diverted from bad places in the mines.

It was decided to invite all mine inspectors to testify regarding the point raised.

Rumors of possible negotiations looking to settlement outside of the commission continued to be heard. Lawyers admit that they have heard such rumors, but say they know nothing about a possible settlement.

SENATE HOLDS SESSION FOR OVER AN HOUR BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Resolution Adopted By Delegates Favoring Admission of New State Is Read.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—The senate was in session today for an hour and five minutes, most of which time was spent behind closed doors.

After the reception of a number of bills and petitions, and the adoption of a concurrent resolution calling on the president for papers in the Pius fund case, recently arbitrated before the Hague tribunal, Beveridge had read the resolution adopted by the delegates to the Oklahoma non-partisan convention favoring the admission of Oklahoma and Indian Territory as one state and opposing the house omnibus statehood bill. The senate at 1:30 adjourned until Monday.

GRAIN BUYERS OBJECT TO ARTICLE SHIPPED THEM

Merchants Exchange Nearly Has Riot In Discussing the Matter.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 4.—The liveliest session of the merchants' exchange held for some time occurred today. For a time a riot seemed imminent but was averted by the prompt action of the grain committee in deciding to send Chief Grain Inspector Bunker to Port Costa to examine into the condition of 5,000 centals of wheat delivered there since December 1 by "Big Four" as December wheat.

This action was made necessary because of a complaint made by those who purchased wheat that it was not a first class article and therefore not the grain that had been ordered delivered to them. They demanded investigation and the grain committee to avoid trouble promptly sent Inspector Bunker to Port Costa to examine the grain.

LOOKS LIKE WAR

Ships Well Equipped and Ready To Seize Base.

PORT OF SPAIN, Island of Trinidad, Dec. 4.—The United States consul has been informed this morning of the "enemy's" squadron. Its destination is uncertain but it is believed to be Porto Rico or Cuba. The ships passed through Boca Grande, going slowly. All the warships had low free board, which is evidence that they are filled with coal and ammunition. A collier carrying

PHILIPPINE TRADE BY WAY SEATTLE

Movement on Foot to Divert Business by Way of Puget Sound Country.

BIDS EXPECTED TO BE BRISK

In Case of Abandoning Transport Services Government Will Gain Advantages of Competing Lines.

OMAHA, Neb., Dec. 4.—Railroads using the Omaha gateway to the Pacific coast are much exercised over what is said to be an effort to divert all government business for the Philippines by way of the St. Paul gateway and over the Great Northern to Seattle.

Should the government abandon its transport service and railroads are called on for a steamship rate in addition to the haul by rail, roads using the Omaha route, the Union and Central Pacific roads, promise to make a strong bid for their share of the Philippine business which will result in a further reduction of rates and consequent advantages to the government.

NEWSPAPER MAN DIES

SAN BERNADINO, Cal., Dec. 4.—Charles K. Harton, a well-known newspaper man, is dead here of consumption. Instructions regarding the disposal of the remains being awaited from his family in Indiana.

LA FONTZIE A CHAMPION

BUTTE, Dec. 4.—Mose La Fontzie, champion welterweight of Montana, knocked out Jerry McCarthy tonight in the fifth round.

RALPH IS BETTER

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 4.—Julian Ralph, the newspaper correspondent and author, who suffered a severe hemorrhage Tuesday night, is reported to be progressing toward recovery.

JUST IN

Burnt Leather Goods

Pillow Tops, Card Cases Tobacco Pouches Opera Bags, Table Covers Shopping Bags

C. H. COOPER'S THE LEADING HOUSE OF ASTORIA

THE INSIDE AND OUTSIDE



The perfection in economical stove construction "SUPERIOR" HOT BLAST For sale in Astoria only by the ECLIPSE HARDWARE COMPANY Plumbers and Steamfitters